

ASSESSING STRATEGIC RESOURCES IN AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs held a hearing on Troops, Diplomats, and Aid: Assessing Strategic Resources for Afghanistan. Testimony was heard from LTG. David W. Barno, USA (Ret.) former Commander, Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan; Ambassador James Dobbins, former Special Envoy for Afghanistan; David Kilcullen, former Special Advisor for Counterinsurgency to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice; and a public witness.

SAME DAY CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

Committee on Rules: The Committee granted, by a non-record vote, a rule waiving clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against certain resolutions reported from the Rules Committee. The rule applies the waiver to any resolution reported through the legislative day of March 30, 2009, providing for consideration or disposition of the bill (H.R. 1388) to reauthorize and reform the national service laws, an amendment thereto, or a conference report thereon.

AVIATION AND THE EMERGING USE OF BIOFUELS

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, hearing on Aviation and the Emerging Use of Biofuels. Testimony was heard from Jaiwon Shin, Associate Administrator, Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate, NASA; and public witnesses.

EXPANDING EQUITY INVESTMENT IN SMALL BUSINESS

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a hearing entitled "Expanding Equity Investment in Small Business." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DOT'S DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAMS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Held a hearing on the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Programs. Testimony was heard from Representative Clyburn; and the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Joel Szabat, Acting Assistant Secretary, Transportation Policy; and Robert C. Ashby, Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Regulation and Enforcement; and public witnesses.

CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION

Committee on Ways and Means: Continued hearings on Climate Change Legislation. Legislative. Testimony was heard from Douglas Elmendorf, Director, CBO; and public witnesses.

USDI UPDATE BRIEFING; AFGHANISTAN ROLL BRIEFING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on USDI Update. The Committee was briefed by James Clapper, Under Secretary, Intelligence, Department of Defense.

The Committee also met in executive session to receive a briefing on Afghanistan Roll-Out. The Committee was briefed by Dennis Blair, Director of National Intelligence.

Joint Meetings

HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFGHANISTAN

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine human rights in Afghanistan, after receiving testimony from Sima Samar, Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, Kabul, Afghanistan; and Scott Worden, United States Institute of Peace, Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings are scheduled.

House

No committee meetings are scheduled.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of March 30 through April 4, 2009

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 11 a.m., Senate will begin consideration of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for fiscal year 2010.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: March 31, to hold hearings to examine Federal school meal programs, focusing on nutrition for kids in schools, 9:30 a.m., SR-328A.

April 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine pending nominations, 2 p.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: April 1, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine assistance for civilian casualties of war, 10 a.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: April 1, to hold hearings to examine United States policy toward Afghanistan and Pakistan, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

April 1, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine the implementation of Wounded Warrior policies and programs, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

April 1, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, with the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to receive a joint closed briefing to examine nuclear terrorism, 3:30 p.m., SVC-217.

April 2, Full Committee, business meeting to mark up S. 454, to improve the organization and procedures of the Department of Defense for the acquisition of major weapon systems, 9 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: March 31, business meeting to consider S. 414, to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act, to ban abusive credit practices, enhance consumer disclosures, protect underage consumers, 10 a.m., SD-538.

March 31, Subcommittee on Economic Policy, to hold hearings to examine lessons from the New Deal, 2:30 p.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: March 31, to continue hearings to examine health insurance industry practices, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: March 31, business meeting to consider S. 531, to provide for the conduct of an in-depth analysis of the impact of energy development and production on the water resources of the United States, S. 598, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to improve appliance standards, S. 661, to strengthen American manufacturing through improved industrial energy efficiency, Energy Innovation and Workforce Development Title, and the nomination of Thomas L. Strickland, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: March 31, Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine Environmental Protection Agency's role in promoting water use efficiency, 10 a.m., SD-406.

April 1, Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's renewable fuel standard, 10 a.m., SD-406.

April 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Regina McCarthy, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, 9:15 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: March 31, to hold an oversight hearing to examine a six-month update on the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), 10 a.m., SD-215.

April 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kathleen Sebelius, of Kansas, to be

Secretary of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: March 31, business meeting to consider S. 384, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 to provide assistance to foreign countries to promote food security, to stimulate rural economies, and to improve emergency response to food crises, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, S. 705, to reauthorize the programs of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, proposed legislation expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the Fifth Summit of the Americas in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, from April 17-19, 2009, S. Con. Res. 11, condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and reaffirming the support of Congress for the mandate of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, S. Res. 9, commemorating 90 years of U.S.-Polish diplomatic relations, during which Poland has proven to be an exceptionally strong partner to the United States in advancing freedom around the world, S. Res. 20, celebrating the 60th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, S. Res. 56, urging the Government of Moldova to ensure a fair and democratic election process for the parliamentary elections on April 5, 2009, and the nominations of Esther Brimmer, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for International Organization Affairs, Karl Winfrid Eikenberry, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Philip H. Gordon, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs, Rose Eilene Gottemoeller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Verification and Compliance, Christopher R. Hill, of Rhode Island, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq, Richard Rahul Verma, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, and Melanne Verveer, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador at Large for Women's Global Issues, all of the Department of State, 2:15 p.m., S-116, Capitol.

March 31, Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South and Central Asian Affairs, to hold hearings to examine the return and resettlement of displaced Iraqis, 2:45 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: March 31, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kathleen Sebelius, of Kansas, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-430.

April 1, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: March 31, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, focusing on the progress it has made since the financial crisis of the 1990s, the financial management challenges in the years ahead, and the steps that are being taken to address those challenges, 10 a.m., SD-342.

April 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine recovery and reinvestment spending, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: April 2, to hold hearings to examine S. 313, to resolve water rights claims of the White Mountain Apache Tribe in the State of Arizona, S. 443, to transfer certain land to the United States to be held in trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, to place land into trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, S. 633, to establish a program for tribal colleges and universities within the Department of Health and Human Services and to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to authorize the provision of grants and cooperative agreements to tribal colleges and universities, and H.R. 326, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take lands in Yuma County, Arizona, into trust as part of the reservation of the Cocopah Tribe of Arizona, 2:15 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: March 31, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-226.

April 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of David F. Hamilton, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, and Ronald H. Weich, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: April 1, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Karen Gordon Mills, of Maine, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration, 9:30 a.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: April 1, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of W. Scott Gould, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: March 31, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

April 2, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, March 31, Subcommittee on Rural Development, Biotechnology, Specialty Crops, and Foreign Agriculture, hearing to review innovative approaches to rural development, 1 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

April 1, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, hearing to review the state of the farm economy, 11 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

April 2, full Committee, to review Federal food safety systems, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, March 30, Subcommittee on Select Intelligence Oversight Panel, on Intelligence Community Research and Development, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

March 31, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on Agriculture, Rural Development and FDA, 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

March 31, Subcommittee on Defense, on Army: Future Combat System and Precision Weapons Programs, 10 a.m., and on Army Aviation, 1 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

March 31, Subcommittee on Financial Services, and General Government, on FTC, 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

March 31, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Securing the Nation's Rail and Transit Systems, Improving the Efficiency of the Aviation Security System, 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

March 31, Subcommittee in Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, on Federal Role in the Arts, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, on Legal Services Corporation, 10 a.m., and on Justice Reinvestment, 1:30 p.m., H-309 Capitol.

April 1, Subcommittee on Defense, on Shipbuilding Programs, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

April 1, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Cargo and Container Security: Keeping a Lid on Threats, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on USFS and DOI—Budgeting for Wildfire Suppression, 9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, on Pathways to Health Reform: Implementing the National Strategy to Reduce Healthcare-Associated Infections, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, on The Future of High Speed Rail, Intercity Passenger Rail and Amtrak, 2 p.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies, on Outside Witnesses and Members of Congress, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

April 2, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, on Missile Defense Agency Overview, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

April 2, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Immigration Enforcement and Citizenship Verification, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on Minerals Management Service Oversight, 9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, April 1, Subcommittee on Defense Acquisition Reform Panel, hearing on Measuring Value and Efficiency: How to Assess the Performance of the Defense Acquisition System, 7:30 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Coordinating Contract Support on the Battlefield: Defense, State and U.S. AID, 1 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing on the National Security Personnel System—the Way Forward, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 2, full Committee, hearing on New Strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan and developments in U.S. Central Command and Special Operations Command, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on improving recovery and full accounting of POW/MIA personnel from all past conflicts, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, hearing on Terrorism and the

New Age of Irregular Warfare: Challenges and Opportunities, 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Labor, March 31, hearing on Green Jobs and their Role in our Economic Recovery, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, March 31, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection, hearing on The Protecting Consumer Access to Generic Drugs Act of 2009, 11 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

March 31, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Making Health Care Work for American Families: Protecting the Public Health, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, hearing on Oversight of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Broadband, 9:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Making Health Care Work for American Families: Saving Money, Saving Lives, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, April 2, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing on H.R. 1214, Payday Loan Reform Act of 2009, 2:30 p.m., 2128 Rayburn

Committee on Foreign Affairs, April 2, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment, hearing on the South Pacific Tuna Treaty: Next Steps for Renewal, 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Middle East and South Asia, hearing on U.S. Strategy for Afghanistan: Achieving Peace and Stability in the Graveyard of Empires, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade, hearing on Export Controls and Satellite Technology, on Export Controls on Satellite Technology, 1 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, March 31, Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response, hearing entitled "Examining Preparedness and Coordination Efforts of First Responders Along the Southwest Border," 10 a.m., followed by hearing on entitled "Do the Payment Card Industry Data Standards Reduce Cybercrime?" 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

April 1, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment, hearing entitled "The Future of Fusion Centers: Potential Promise and Dangers," 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

April 2, full Committee, hearing entitled "Homeland Security Policymaking: HSC at a Crossroads and Presidential Study Directive 1," 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, April 1, hearing on 2008 Audit Review and Agency Spending by the Election Assistance Commission, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

April 1, full Committee, hearing on Management of Asbestos and Hazardous Materials at the Smithsonian Institution, 1 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, March 31, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on VoIP: Who Has Jurisdiction to Tax It? 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

March 31, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law, and the Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil

Liberties, joint hearing on H.R. 847, James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 2, full Committee, hearing on Proposals to Fight Fraud and Protect Taxpayers, including the following measures: Fight Fraud Act of 2009; H.R. 1292, To amend title I, of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish a National White Collar Crime Center grants program for purposes of improving the identification, investigation, and prosecution of certain criminal conspiracies and activities and terrorist conspiracies and activities; H.R. 1667, War Profiteering Prevention Act of 2009; False Claims Corrections Act; Financial Crimes Resources Act of 2009; Money Laundering Correction Act of 2009; and H.R. 78, Stop Mortgage Fraud Act, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on Consumer Debt: Are Credit Cards Bankrupting Americans? 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law, and the Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, joint hearing on the Public Safety and Civil Rights Implications of State and Local Enforcement of Federal Immigration Laws, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, March 31, oversight hearing on "The California Drought: Actions by Federal and State agencies to address impacts on lands, fisheries, and water users," 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 1, oversight hearing on Supreme Court decision *Carcier v. Salazar* Ramifications to Indian Tribes, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 2, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, hearing on H.R. 1612, Public Lands Services Corps Act of 2009, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, March 31, Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, hearing on Afghanistan and Pakistan: Understanding and Engaging Regional Stakeholders, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 2, full Committee, hearing on the Collapse and Federal Rescue of AIG and What it Means for the U.S. Economy, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, March 30, to consider H. Res. 279, Providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Eleventh Congress, 4 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science and Technology, March 31, Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 1736, International Science and Technology Cooperation Act of 2009, H.R. 1709, STEM Education Coordination Act of 2009, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation, hearing on the Role of Research in Addressing Climate in Transportation Infrastructure, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

April 1, full Committee, hearing on Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, April 2, Subcommittee on Rural Development, Entrepreneurship and Trade, hearing

on legislative initiatives to Modernize SBA's Entrepreneurial Development Programs, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, March 31, Subcommittee on Water Resources, and Environment, hearing on the Tennessee Valley Authority's Kingston Ash Slide: Potential Water Quality Impacts of Coal Combustion Waste Storage, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing on Civil Rights Services and Diversity Initiatives in the Coast Guard, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, April 2, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Programs, 1 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, March 31, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing on Banking Secrecy Practices and Wealthy American Taxpayers, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

April 1, full Committee, hearing on Health Reform in the 21st Century: Reforming the Health Care Delivery System, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

April 2, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing on the Financial Crisis and Retirement Security: the 401(k) Way, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, April 1, full Committee, executive, briefing on Armenia, 5 p.m., 304 HVC.

April 1, full Committee, executive, briefing on North Korea update, 1 p.m., 304 HVC.

April 1, Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management, hearing on management issues in the Intelligence Community, 10 a.m., 2203 Rayburn.

April 2, full Committee, executive, briefing on Signals Intelligence, 2 p.m., 304 HVC.

April 2, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis, and Counterintelligence, executive, briefing on Global Deployment, 10 a.m., 304 HVC.

Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: April 1, Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, with the Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to receive a joint closed briefing to examine nuclear terrorism, 3:30 p.m., SVC-217.

April 1, Full Committee, with the Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to receive a joint closed briefing to examine nuclear terrorism, 3:30 p.m., SVC-217.

Joint Economic Committee: April 3, to hold hearings to examine the employment situation for March 2009, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.